

What is claimed is:

1.

A dishwasher tub support frame comprising:
a single substantially rigid unitary support member formed from a single piece of material and having a pair of laterally spaced upright U-shaped end portions for supporting a bottom wall of the tub and an inverted U-shaped upright intermediate portion adapted to extend laterally over a top wall and downward outwardly adjacent opposite side walls of the tub.

2.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the intermediate portion has a pair of lower ends and the unitary support member further comprises first and second transitional portions angling rearwardly and downwardly to join the lower ends of the intermediate portion with the upright U-shaped end portions respectively.

3.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the intermediate portion includes a top rail extending horizontally and a pair of side rails extending vertically, the side rails being parallel to each other and perpendicular to the top rail.

4.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the upright U-shaped end portions are parallel to each other.

5.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the upright U-shaped end portions extend perpendicular to the intermediate portion.

6.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the single piece of material is a piece of elongated bar stock that has an open channel extending longitudinally therein and U-shaped transverse cross-section.

7.

The frame of claim 1 wherein the single piece of material is a piece of tubular bar stock.

8.

The frame of claim 7 wherein the tubular bar stock has a square transverse cross-section.

9.

In combination, a dishwasher tub including a top wall, a bottom wall, opposite side walls, a back wall, an open front, and a front flange portion extending adjacent the open front and perpendicular to the top and side walls, the front flange portion having a front faceplate, a surface for receiving a door seal recessed rearwardly from the faceplate, and a rearwardly directed surface opposite the door seal receiving surface; and a unitary support frame for said tub comprising: a single substantially rigid unitary support member having a pair of laterally spaced upright U-shaped end portions

for supporting the bottom wall of the tub and an inverted U-shaped upright intermediate portion extending laterally across the top wall and downward along the opposite side walls so as to maintain perpendicularity of the front flange to the top wall and side walls of the tub.

10.

The combination of claim 9 wherein tub has a peripheral groove therein rearwardly adjacent the rearwardly directed surface on the front flange portion and the intermediate portion of the support member is adapted to fit in the groove.

11.

The combination of claim 10 wherein the groove is formed in the top wall and the side walls of the tub and wherein the front flange portion of the tub is secured to the intermediate portion of the support member by a plurality of fasteners extending through the door seal receiving surface.

12.

The combination of claim 9 wherein the intermediate portion has a pair of lower ends and the unitary support member further comprises first and second transitional portions angling rearwardly and downwardly to join the lower ends of the intermediate portion with the upright U-shaped end portions respectively.

13.

The combination of claim 9 wherein the intermediate portion includes a top rail extending horizontally and a pair of side rails extending vertically, the side rails being parallel to each other.

14.

The combination of claim 9 wherein the upright U-shaped end portions are parallel to each other.

15.

The combination of claim 9 wherein the upright U-shaped end portions are perpendicular to the intermediate portion.

16.

A method of assembling a dishwasher tub to a support frame comprising the steps of:

providing a substantially rigid support member having a pair

of laterally spaced upright U-shaped end portions for supporting a bottom wall of the tub and an inverted U-shaped upright intermediate portion for extending laterally across a top wall of the tub and downward along opposite side walls of the tub;

pulling the laterally spaced upright U-shaped end portions of the support frame away from each other sufficiently to receive the top wall and side walls of the tub therebetween; and

forcing the support member toward the bottom wall until the end portions extend beyond the bottom wall and resiliently spring laterally inward toward each other to support the bottom wall.